— Closer consultation with the employee Unions/Associations to foster an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

(iv) Increased International operations to usefully deploy available capacity.

(v) Tie up with Air India in several areas like joint venture operatons in the Gulf countries, hub and spoke operations, frequent flier scheme.

Earning of Foreign Exchange by Tourism Department

1403. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out a strategy for adopting a planned approach to tap tourism potential for earning foreign exchange of over Rs. 10,000 crore by 1997;

(b) if so; the details in this respect;

(c) whether it is a fact that hotel industry is required to adopt strategy to provide accommodation to an estimated five million tourists by 1996 97 and providing 1,25,000 hotel rooms in the country;

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) what amount at present is being earned by the Tourism Department in foreign exchange and the target for the same fixed for the next three financial years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) A tentative action plan has been prepared by the Department of Touism to attract five million foreign tourists and to earn foreign exchange amounting to Rs. 10,000 crores. These targets are now proposed to be achieved by the turn of the century.

(c) It is estimated that 1,25,000 approved hotel rooms would be required to accommodate five million tourists.

(d) A number of incentives and facilities are being provided both by the Central and State Governments for attracting private investment in the hotel industry. In addition, tourism industries including hotels have been declared as a priority sector for foreign investment.

(e) The foreign exchange earning from tourism during 1993-94 is estimated to be Rs. 4573 crores. The projected earnings for the next three years are as given below:

Year	Rs. Crores
1994-95	5200
1995-96	6000
1996-97	7000

Fares charged by International Airlines

1404. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Air carriers have recently agreed to charge pre-specified fares as recorded with the Indian Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In a meeting convened by the Director General of Civil Aviation, the International Air Carriers have agreed to charge pre-specified fares as filed with Director General of Civil Aviation. They have also agreed to abide by the provisions of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 relating to tariff.

Operation of Boeing Aircraft in Saurashtra Region

1405. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the actual and total length of runways, taxi tracks and apron at Bhuj, Kandla, Porbandar, Keshod Airports;

(b) whether Boeing aircrafts are operated to and from all the above airports except Rajkot, Bhavnagar and Jamnagar;

(c) whether Government propose to expand and extend the runway at the Bhavnagar airport with all navigational facilities of International standards;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The actual and total length of runways, taxi tracks and apron at Bhuj, Kandla, Porbandar, Keshod airports are as under:—

	Runway	Taxitrack	Apron
BHUJ:	05/23 8250'x150'	Width 75'	150'x110'
KANDLA:	05/23 5000'x150'	Width 50'	300 'x200'
		Length 650'	
PORBA:	09/27 4500 'x150'	Width 50'	150 'x100' (old)
NDAR:	05/23 3290 'x120'	Length 900'	300 'x200' (new)
KESHOD:	05/23 4500 'x150'	Width 50'	300 'x250'
		Length 630'	

(b) Indian Airlines is presently operating Airbus A-320 aircraft to Bhavnagar and Boeing-737 aircraft to Bhuj, Rajkot and Jamnagar.

(c) to (e) The National Airports Authority is ascertaining the feasibility of extension of the runway at Bhavnagar. The existing Very High Frequency Omni Range (VOR) is being replaced by Doppler VOR at a total cost of Rs. 1.2 crores. It is likely to be commissioned by December, 1994.

Complants regarding raw deal from Travel Agents

1406. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided recently to come to the rescue of tourists who get a raw deal from travel agents, tour operators, hoteliers and traders by setting up a cell;

(b) if so, what is the composition of the cell;